

The Principia.

First Principles in Religion, Morals, Government, and the Economy of Life.

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The Principia

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of forbearance, up to the very verge of the ruin of the country, up to the point of indispensable necessity for salvation, before relinquishing the plan of saving slavery and the Union together. Not till the last agony would he interpose.

Now no mortal could have been justified in deferring the act of salvation to any future measure, or moment, unless he knew absolutely the time when, and the certainty of success. He could not be justified in refusing to use this reserved and mighty power one instant. But he does it on the plea, that an oath bound him not to interfere, and that necessity alone would permit him to obey God and deliver the country, for that the moral consideration of an oath bound him not to act from the moral consideration of justice, but only from necessity. He must therefore know absolutely what that necessity is, when it comes: how many hundred thousand men must be sacrificed first, and how many of the nine hells of rebellion and war the nation must be dragged through.

He says he believed, (all the while that this transcendent demoralization, ruin and horror of desolation was going on,) that the indispensable necessity would come. At length it came, and he was compelled to choose; but behold, it is no necessity at all, nor, in his judgment, any certainty, but merely an uncertain balancing of hopes and fears.

He says distinctly "in choosing it, I hoped for greater gain than loss; but of this I was not entirely confident." It seems then, that he had been suffering the ruin of the country to go on, upon the plea that he was waiting for the necessity to save it, by a measure from which after all he only hoped for greater gain than loss, and that this hope, of greater gain than loss released him from his oath, and permitted him to break the Constitution, in order to save the country, by delivering the enslaved, and employing colored soldiers.

He breaks his oath not from necessity, but simply to try an experiment, declaring at the very same time that he is doubtful whether it will succeed. On the whole, after a year of trial, he thinks there is more gain than loss, "a gain of quite a hundred and thirty thousand soldiers, seamen and laborers."

And in the years through which he fought against the experiment, a loss of more than three hundred thousand, from the time when he first forbade this measure, and on account of his forbidding it, because he did not then think it an indispensable necessity. While the country was being ruined, he was balancing between the necessities of breaking his oath and the Constitution, by emancipation, or as he says, of surrendering the Union and the Constitution by not emancipating. He chose to break his oath and the Constitution, hoping for greater gain than loss, although he was not confident.

And this is the statesman whom it is proposed to elect for the next Presidential term!

Now even in regard to this claim of doubtful gain, it is not the proclamation of emancipation that has gained the gain, but the deferring and refusing of emancipation that has prevented the gain from having been doubled long before. All that the proclamation set free were freed by acts of Congress, long before the proclamation, the operation of which acts the President himself hindered.

And it is publicly avowed the Proclamation made more slaves than it freed, and that there is not a single solitary black man in the Federal service, who might not have been in it, even if this deceptive proclamation of emancipation had never been issued. It is under acts of Congress, and not under the proclamation, that black men are now employed as soldiers and laborers. If the President had not forbidden Fremont and others to carry into execution those acts, instead of a hundred and thirty thousand, we should have had five hundred thousand; we should have had all free, and as many as we chose for soldiers.

And it is quite certain that more persons are kept in slavery by the President, in violation of the acts of Congress, than have ever obtained their freedom under his proclamation. In fact the proclamation gave freedom to almost none, because the President himself voluntarily excepted from its operation nearly all the territory of which we had gained possession, consequently himself established slavery in all that territory. The entire State of Tennessee was excepted, so that there the President established slavery by his own choice, where, by acts of Congress there would have been freedom.

Just so in Louisiana, the President deliberately re-established slavery in the heart of that State. He declares himself naturally anti-slavery, but he has established slavery by choice, and abolished it only from necessity. It is

positively affirmed that the existing acts of Congress, without the proclamation, would have freed nearly every slave who has as yet acquired freedom in Louisiana, Arkansas, Mississippi and Alabama, and these acts, if faithfully carried out, would liberate many persons yet held as slaves.

Besides all this, we are laden with the guilt of the voluntary continuance of so many outrages against the black race, never, in a single instance, punished by the President, notwithstanding the law of Congress for the punishment of those who should be found guilty of returning blacks to slavery. These acts of wickedness were known and condoned at, and have been sustained, up to the present hour, and men guilty of them have been favored and retained in office, while men opposing them, and endeavoring to execute freedom have been set aside.

The claim, the hunt, the capture of slaves, by United States officers, have been known, in Tennessee, in Kentucky, and in other States, and permitted with impunity. The iniquity of kidnapping has been going on with such perfect impunity and success in Kentucky, that it has been publicly announced, and not contradicted, that several thousand annually have been thus made slaves since the rebellion; but the President, who considered it necessary publicly to apologize to the Governor of Kentucky for his Emancipation proclamation, has never ever so much as protested against the enslavement of free citizens of the United States by Kentucky.

And as to acts in which the whole government are part and parcel in the oppression, take the case of that noble colored regiment of New Orleans who volunteered in 48 hours, and saved the department, serving 40 days, being promised the same pay and rations as other soldiers, but when the time of payment came, instead of gratitude, or bounty, or bare justice, the wages of each soldier were cut down to 7 dollars a month, and each was charged a high price for his uniform, and brought in debt to the government \$6.97 each, or more than 7,000 dollars for the whole regiment. They were men of business, in various commercial and industrial pursuits, which they abandoned at considerable cost, and were rewarded for this service by being ordered to pay, each, the sum of six dollars and ninety-seven cents!

It is this contemptuous, fraudulent, and unjust treatment of the colored race by ourselves, this cruel practice by ourselves, of the declaration in our tribunal of justice, that black men have no rights that white men are bound to respect, that has produced the savage treatment of our colored soldiers by the enemy. If we rob them ourselves, what can be thought strange if the confederate pirates think it right to hang them.

If we take away from them the right of voting, the Confederates may naturally take away the right of living. If we take away from them those rights, without which we say that for ourselves, life is not endurable, what wonder if the Confederates take away their life? Certainly, if we do not respect the right of humanity in them, we cannot blame our enemies for not doing it. We ourselves are responsible for their massacre.

The friends of freedom abroad look on with amazement at such presumption and folly. "Depend upon it," says Gen. T. Perronet Thompson of England, "the Ruler of the Universe has not sent men into the world to amuse himself with playing bo-peep with opportunities after this sort. Life is a state of rugged trial, and happy are they who are able to struggle, and having done all, to stand. No man, in giving account of his stewardship, will be allowed to say, I would have done better, if I had only been sure it was time to bestir myself."

Tens of thousands more, have just been sacrificed to the Moloch of non-necessity. A grisly king he has been to America; and it is a question how much more of him there is to be yet."

But after all this, we have the avowal from him that his oath was binding only in a time of peace and of ordinary civil administration. In a time of war he was clothed with new powers which his oath did not restrict. He declares that in swearing to preserve, protect, and defend the Constitution of the United States, he understood that in ordinary civil administration this oath "ever forbade him to practically indulge his primary abstract judgment on the subject of slavery." But military necessity released him, and set him at liberty to set the slaves at liberty, if he thought best.

Why then did he not emancipate as soon as the war power gave him the authority? Especially, if he was naturally anti-slavery, why did he not indulge his nature? Because he

says, he waited for indispensable necessity. And yet he declares that so far from having any knowledge of such necessity, he only hoped for greater gain than loss. Down to the 1st of January 1863, it was an indispensable necessity for him to keep his oath of not interfering against slavery. Down to that date the assertion in his inaugural stands, that although he is naturally anti-slavery, and believes if slavery be not wrong, nothing is wrong, he yet not only believed that he ought not to interfere against slavery, but had no inclination so to do.

Down to that date, he let the slaughter of rebellion and war go on, as not being indispensably necessary to be ended for the salvation of the country by emancipation. But in January 1863 he finds the indispensable necessity.

He, then, *alone is responsible for all the precious slaughter*, unless he absolutely knew that that necessity did not exist before. But he confesses that he neither knows when it began, nor any element of certainty about it, nor whether it now exists, only hoping for greater gain than loss. The choice of continuing that war and slaughter on such confusion of moral obliquities involves a moral responsibility and guilt that God only can measure.

But all these frightful results are consequent on cutting loose from God and justice, and making expediency instead of righteous principle, the rule. Such a man pretends to be controlled by events, and offers that, as an excuse for the reluctant act of justice, when at length he is compelled to perform it. But if he had allowed righteous events to control him, we should have been saved; but he chose to be controlled by the unrighteous, and to nullify and control the righteous. The emancipation proclamations of Fremont, Hunter and Cameron were events; but the President could control those events, by his own will, in the interest of slavery, to spare slavery.

The protest of Kentucky against emancipation, and the requisition of Kentucky upon the President to nullify the proclamation of emancipation by Fremont, was an event; a very notable event; but the President chose to be controlled by that event, instead of controlling it. The proclamation of General Hunter was an event; but instead of being controlled by that, President Lincoln was so determined instantly to control it, to nullify it, that without waiting for any official information that it had been issued, but taking the reports in the newspapers as his authority, he sat down at once and wrote to General Hunter a revocation of the proclamation of freedom, on the ground that it would injure the cause of the Union, and exasperate our Southern friends. He did not wait for indispensable necessity to strike at freedom, but struck at the instant, in behalf of slavery, controlled events in behalf of slavery. But the ultimate necessity must be waited for, and the country all but ruined, before he would strike against slavery.

And this is the politician for whom Christian men and anti-slavery men are invited and commanded to vote for the next President. We are informed that even the attempt to offer another candidate is a species of treason against this man's claims!

As Christian men, our allegiance to God, and justice and humanity, binds us, at God's command, to seek for a man as our ruler, "who will execute justice, and seek the truth," and who will stand for us against the oppression of the stranger. We have our instructions from Jehovah, and must obey them. "He that ruleth over men must be just, ruling in the fear of God." We are therefore bound to refrain from putting into power a man who disavows justice, except under compulsion, and who makes expediency, which is proverbially "the tyrant's plea," his sole rule of action. Our controlling rule is God and his will; not events, and our construction of them. Trusting in God, we demand justice, without respect to persons, for the colored race, as well as the white race. We demand freedom for all, and the equal right of representation, grounded only on the ability to read and write. We will never give our vote for the man who attempted to bribe the most savage rebellion ever known on earth, by offering to the will of the rebels the very barbarism in behalf of which they rebelled, the perpetual ownership of three millions of our fellow citizens as slaves. God forbid that we should show ourselves accessory, even after the fact, to such an ineradicable shame and crime!

Swindling the Government—Smith Brothers, hardware dealers and naval contractors, No. 102 Federal street, Boston, were arrested on Friday and sent to Fort Warren for swindling the Government.

THE PRESS ON THE PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION.

We devote a liberal space, this week, to the utterances of the press in relation to the Presidential election.

From the American Baptist of June 7.

The Radical Democracy.

A very important movement has been made during the past week, in the nomination, by the Cleveland Convention, of Gen. John C. Fremont for the Presidency, and Gen. John Cochrane for Vice President. The union of two men of such antecedents, has created not a little surprise. Gen. Cochrane was a Breckinridge Democrat, and, of course, favorable to the perpetuation of slavery, but the rebellion has converted him, as it has done Butler and others, to the doctrine of abolition. It was probably thought that by placing on the ticket one who had been so prominent a Democrat, there would be a greater chance of securing Democratic votes. This ticket, as it is the first in time, so in anti-slavery principle it is probably in advance of any other that will be presented to the country. The platform is well laid, and such as nearly every loyal anti-slavery man will readily endorse. It now remains to be seen whether the Baltimore Convention will offer as good a platform, and candidates equally approved. It is already stated that the Baltimore platform will be much more radical, on account of the Cleveland action, than it would have been otherwise. If so, the Convention at Cleveland will have produced at least one good result. The following is the platform adopted as the basis of the "Radical Democracy":

After copying the platform, the editor proceeds:

From three hundred and fifty to four hundred delegates were present, and the action of the Convention was very unanimous. Sixteen States were represented. A letter was read from Wendell Phillips, commenting, in strong terms, on the dangerous policy of our rulers, in the matter of reconstruction. Mr. Phillips believes that unless colored men are allowed a voice in the reconstruction and government of the revolted States, there is no prospect of a restoration of peace, for many years to come.

Of Gen. Fremont's letter of acceptance, the *American Baptist* says,

It is an able exposition of true principles, and is, like all his writings, frank, clear, and straight to the purpose. He expresses his reluctance to separate from the Republican party, and would still prefer to join them in electing another man, if they will select one of radical principles, but he cannot be an approver or a participator in the acts of the present Administration.

From the State League, (Syracuse, N. Y.)

The Cleveland Convention.

Having been present at this Convention, we are prepared to speak of it from our own knowledge and observation. Both the Democratic and Republican papers misrepresent it. The Democrats have spoken of it as much larger than it was, while they would like to make it appear that its primary object was the defeat of Mr. Lincoln, without regard to the support of any fixed principles.

The Republicans, on the other hand, speak of it as "a fizzle," "an abortion," &c., and put the movement to the credit of "a few crazy-headed fanatics and strong-minded women." So far as lying is concerned, the Republicans show themselves fully equal to the Copperheads. A more infamous concoction of falsehoods and misrepresentations were never penned by a malignant Copperhead against Union men, than the article copied into the *Journal* of this city, on Saturday last, from the *Rochester Democrat*, headed "The Cleveland Malcontents." That portion of the Republican party composed of old pro-slavery Whigs, embrace some of the most unprincipled politicians in the Union. They remember their old hatred of Radicals and Abolitionists, and we doubt not would be as ready now to lead mobs against them as formerly.

But to return—the Cleveland Convention, of course, was not as large as a Convention of a party having control of the government patronage, with its tens of thousands of officeholders, intent on keeping their places of power and profit, with as many more earnestly desiring to possess them. Both of these classes always throng such Conventions, to show their zeal for their party.

It was however, as large as could reasonably be expected. It had representatives from nearly all the Union States, and was composed of earnest, determined men, of talents that would not suffer by comparison with those of any other Convention of the kind.

It was harmonious in its operations, agreeing in its resolutions, and in the platform that was adopted. The only difference in opinion seemed to be in the policy of making a nomination now, or of deferring it till September. Those for adjourning the Convention were favorable to the nomination of Gen. Grant, believing him as radical as Gen. Fremont, and as certain to secure the entire destruction of slavery, and effect the needed reforms in the management of governmental affairs, with a fairer prospect of an election. But the friends of Fremont, and of an immediate nomination were overwhelmingly in the majority—only nine standing up to sustain the motion for a postponement. Col. Moss, of Missouri, a fine specimen of a Western man,—radical to the back-bone, and equal in power to a regiment of ordinary men,—then moved the nomination of Gen. John C. Fremont, of California, for President, by acclamation, which was carried

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NEW-YORK, THURSDAY, JUNE 23, 1864.

FOR PRESIDENT,

JOHN C. FREMONT.

CAMPAIGN PAPER.

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All orders received up to Monday night of each week, will commence with the next Thursday's paper.

ANNUAL MEETING.

The Annual Meeting of the Stockholders of the PRINCIPIA ASSOCIATION will be held on Monday, June 27, 1864, at the Rooms of the Association, No. 104 William St., New York, for the purpose of electing Trustees for the ensuing year, hearing the Annual Report, and the transaction of such other business as may come before them.

WM. GOODALL, Secretary.

NEW YORK, June 14, 1864.

FREMONT AND COCHRANE.

GRAND RATIFICATION MEETING AT COOPER INSTITUTE, On Monday Evening Next, June 27.

Let the friends of Freedom rally at Cooper Institute, on Monday evening next, in such crowds as will send consternation into the ranks of their opponents, and demonstrate to the country that the Pathfinder is now fairly booked for the White House.

HON. B. GATZ BROWN, WENDELL PHILLIPS, HON. HENRY T. BLOW, GEN. JOHN COCHRANE, and others, are expected to address the meeting.

PARTIES OF THE FUTURE.

We have witnessed the wreck of the parties of the past, and have noted the causes of their dissolution.

They have all failed because they have been composed of discordant elements and materials, seeking opposite and irreconcilable ends. The managers have vainly labored to harmonize them, or to cover up their want of harmony by ambiguities, so as to gather into the same ballot box the votes of men of the most opposite political intentions, by paltering in a double sense, wearing a double face, and promising to one class of voters, in one part of the country, the very opposite of what they promised to another class of voters, in another part of the country.

This duplicity has, in some parties, been extended to almost all the topics of political agitation and action. Thus, the Whig party was systematically and perseveringly, a National Bank party at the North, and an Anti-Bank party at the South; a high Tariff party, at the North, and an anti-Tariff party at the South; "the true anti-slavery" or "most favorable" party, at the North, but electing two Presidents, with the Southern vote, on the merit of having been the first party to oppose the abolitionists. It was this policy that nominated Harrison, to carry the North, and Tyler, known to be of opposite politics, to carry the South. Having pursued this policy to a greater extent than its rival, it was the first to be overwhelmed and disrupted by the disclosure.

Notwithstanding the efforts of political leaders to ignore the slavery question, or to thrust it into the background, it has been the most important question before the country for thirty years past, and will continue to be so, in spite of all political devices to prevent it, so long as there remains a slave or a slaveholder in the republic. This arises from the fact that slaveholding is a practical denial of the first principle of republican government, and that the slaveholder is, of necessity, by virtue of his position, an oligarch. While honest republicanism lives, in the country, oligarchy will be opposed, of course. And, *vice versa*, where there are oligarchs, genuine republicanism will have adversaries. Between the two, there can be no permanent agreement.

It is the slavery question, accordingly, that has furnished the antagonistical elements in all our political parties. It was the slavery question, not the bank question, nor the tariff question, that disrupted and destroyed the Whig party. It was the slavery question, not the bank or the tariff question, that disrupted and disorganized the Democratic party.

This shows that, although political leaders may hold the slavery question to be subordinate and comparatively unimportant, the masses of all parties will, in the end, think differently, and act accordingly. The leaders of the Democratic party were puzzled and astonished to find their party breaking in pieces, from a difference of sentiment and purpose concerning the slavery question. But they were compelled to witness the fact which they did not foresee, and could not prevent.

Though the leaders of the Democratic party

were later in their violent opposition to the abolition movement, than their rivals, the Whig leaders, yet when they found themselves distanced, they plunged furiously into the same race, determined to outstrip all competitors. In this they were, for a time, successful, electing three Presidents on the pro-slavery basis. Yet they could not avoid nor prevent a strong array of Democratic votes in Congress, in favor of the Wilmot proviso. And when the Free Soil or Free Democratic party was organized, the political leaders of the party could not prevent the secession of large numbers of Democrats from their ranks to the new movement, under the honored Democratic names of John P. Hale and Martin Van Buren. In vain were the seceders anathematized as "apostates." The schism continued to widen, and finally took form under Senator Douglas. The Convention at Charleston completed the explosion, and the Democratic party "as it was" became a thing of the past. The Republican party, in its day, was largely composed of original Democrats, who left their party in consequence of its support of pro-slavery propagandism.

The Republican party itself was composed of two discordant elements, the one being more or less "conservative" of slavery—the other more or less assimilating to radical abolitionism, or composed of original abolitionists. The accession of Mr. Lincoln and the outbreak of the rebellion witnessed a still further fusion, by the rush of Democrats to the support of the Government and the Administration, until the identity and even the name of the Republican party were merged and lost in the Union party, especially since the recent Convention at Baltimore.

So we have the history of four political parties, the Whig, the Democratic, the Free Democracy or Free Soil, and the Republican, all of which have ceased to exist, as distinct political organizations, in consequence of their having been composed of discordant elements and materials, seeking diverse objects and incongruous measures.

And in each instance, the disturbing element has been the slavery question—not the bank question nor the tariff question—nor any other question, however earnestly commended to the public attention, by the leaders of political parties, in their speeches, resolutions, and platforms. The issues which their leaders have presented to them, the masses of the people have ignored. The issues which their leaders have slurred or ignored, the masses of the people, though greatly trammelled by their leaders, have been determined to vote upon, and to vote in opposition to the wishes of those who have undertaken to make out their programmes for them. They have voted as nearly to radical abolition as their "platform" constructors would give them the opportunity of doing, and would gladly have voted for more radical measures, if the opportunity had been afforded to them, by those whom they had been accustomed to regard as leaders.

Such have been the parties of the past, and such has been the fate of them, and the causes of their disappearance.

In the light of this record, we may be enabled to peer into the parties of the future, and decipher their prospects. If anything is to be learned by the experience of the past, it is this: that no party can be permanently kept together, among an earnest and intelligently patriotic people, that is composed of opposite and conflicting elements, and that allows itself to follow the lead of selfish politicians, who undertake to play a double game, to ignore the most important issues of the times, and thrust forward those of comparatively little importance, or of doubtful solution or utility.

So long as slavery exists in this country, so long the slavery question will be the most important political question before the people, a question not to be blinked or thrust into the background. The people will so regard it, in their own consciences, and the political managers cannot prevent it.

To this it may be added that the time for middle ground, half-way programmes, in respect to the slavery question, has gone by, or will have gone by, before long. Earnest men see that there can be no middle ground or compromise between slavery and freedom. This is seen in the almost universal assent of loyal men to the necessity of a national prohibition of slavery, in some form. The best and speediest method of doing this, may not, at first, be discovered, but it will be discovered before long. No party that does not recognize this necessity, can have any foundation for permanency, unless it be a party openly in the interest of slavery, a party that cannot survive its existence.

A radical abolition party and a radical and openly avowed pro-slavery party are the only two parties of the future that can have any foundation upon which to stand.

A party with one anti-slavery plank in its platform, and another pro-slavery plank in the same platform—a party that assents to the President's proclamation of freedom, and also to the President's proclamation of Amnesty promising to annul it—a party approving the threat of emancipation, where we have no power to enforce it, and offering to make the threat a nullity, as soon as we have the power—a party withholding emancipation where, it is admitted, we have the power, a party permitting the kidnapping of fugitive slaves in the District of Columbia, where Congress has

prohibited slavery, yet promising to amend the Constitution so as to abolish slavery in the States—a party courted abolition votes by promising universal freedom, and slaveholders votes by initiating, as in Louisiana, a system of serfdom or peonage commended as being an equivalent for slavery—such a party, thus managed, and contrived to accommodate a membership composed of both pro-slavery conservatives, and deluded anti-slavery radicals, such a party can only be treading in the steps of its predecessors, that have already gone down to oblivion.

It only remains to add that any party that would successfully compete with it, must avoid the same error of laboring to harmonize opposites, or temporize with the slavery question.

IS SLAVERY DEAD?

Is it Virtually Destroyed?

If it is, we might reasonably expect to see some evidence of the fact beyond the mere assertion of it.

In the first place, what is meant by the assertion that Slavery is dead?

Is it merely this, that it is void of legal validity—that it exists only by brute force, without the sanction of valid law? In that sense, the statement is indeed true; and so it was before the outbreak of the rebellion. It has never had the sanction of valid law. "Statutes against fundamental morality are void." So says the Supreme Court of the United States. "Acts of Parliament contrary to justice are void." So say the Courts of Great Britain. "Nothing is law that contravenes justice." So say the eminent jurists and lawgivers of all civilized nations, from Moses to Blackstone.

But waiving all this, Wm. Pitt proved, in the British Parliament, that the royal permits and acts of Parliament claimed to have legalized the African Slave trade, positively forbade it. Lord Chief Justice Mansfield, in his decision of the Somerset case, in 1772, decided that slavery, being a violation of English common law, had never been legal in England. The English Colonies, of which the American States were at that time a portion, were inhibited by their Charters from enacting any statutes contrary to the common law of England. And, in matter of fact, no laws establishing slavery were ever enacted, either in the Colonies or States, or by the mother country. So said Judges Porter and Mathews of Louisiana. So testified John C. Calhoun. So repeated Senator Mason, while shaping the fugitive slave bill. So reiterated all the Southern delegates in Congress, and Senator Douglass, during the struggle concerning slavery in the Territories. Had there been any legalized slavery in the Colonies at the outbreak of the revolution, it would have been abolished by the Declaration of Independence, first, because of the change of jurisdiction; second, because the instrument itself is a denial of its validity. Nobody pretends that the Constitution originated slavery. Consequently, it never had any legitimate legal origin. It exists only by brute force.

It exists, nevertheless, as a matter of fact. It exists with all the legal validity that it ever had, in the border states and portions of states exempted from the operation of the President's Proclamation of freedom. It exists, in matter of fact, in all the rebel States not subdued or held in occupancy by the Federal forces. It exists, as it has always existed, and will exist, until and unless the rebellion is thoroughly subdued, the Union restored, and the States reconstructed without slavery. If the reconstruction is made upon President Lincoln's plan and under his Amnesty Proclamation, as is, evidently, his intention, and the intention of his chosen adviser and chief assistant, Mr. Seward, then Slavery, so far from being virtually destroyed, will be restored in its full power, and will be as potential over the nation as ever—according to the promise of President Lincoln in his Inaugural and Message, according to Mr. Seward's circular to our Ministers abroad, and according to the Resolutions of both Houses of Congress. As to the proposed amendment of the Constitution abolishing slavery, the influence of the Slave Power, pronounced to be dead, has already defeated it in the popular branch of the National Legislature, the House of Representatives! Had it been otherwise, had both Houses recommended it, the prospect of its adoption by three-fourths of the States, counting the rebel States (especially under the influence of the President's Amnesty Proclamation) is very far distant. Until the rebellion is subdued, the vote of the rebel states cannot be given, and consequently cannot be counted. If a reconstruction takes place, on the President's Amnesty plan, or on any other plan recognizing the right of a State to enslave its inhabitants, the vote of the states thus restored will not be likely to be in favor of the Amendment. Neither Delaware nor New Jersey can be relied upon to adopt the Amendment.

As a matter of fact, the proportion of so called freedmen at the South, in comparison with those still held in slavery is relatively small. In many sections their freedom is rather nominal than real, and in case of either a recognition of Southern Independence, or of a reconstruction without a matter-of-fact and cordially recognized abolition of slavery, all these "freedmen" will be exposed to re-enslavement.

What, then, is meant by the affirmation that slavery is dead or virtually destroyed? We know what the N. Y. Herald and papers of that character mean by the statement, and the objects they wish to subserve. They mean—and they avow it—to remove the slavery question from the sphere of politics, from political platforms, and legislative action! Should the stratagem succeed, and anti-slavery agitation be thus silenced, the revival of the slavery party, and its undisputed supremacy over the country would be as certain as any of the processes of nature. Such assurance, from such a quarter, are among the indubitable evidences that slavery still lives, and has influence.

If slavery be dead, or is virtually destroyed, what means the opposition in Congress to the repeal of all enactments for the rendition of fugitive slaves? What means the concessions even of the Republican Senators, Sherman and Foster, to the sacred inviolability of the fugitive slave act of 1793? What means the potency of pro-slavery conservatism, and the fear of radical abolitionism in nominating Conventions? What means the failure in the House of Representatives—already alluded to—of a recommendation to the people of the States to amend the Constitution so as to forbid slavery?

The opposition, be it remembered, comes not from those who hold, with us, that the Constitution is already anti-slavery, and therefore needs no amendment. It comes from those who profess to hold the Constitution a shield of slavery and intend that it shall remain so.

No! Slavery is neither dead nor virtually destroyed. It controls the Executive Mansion and dictates its Amnesty and reconstruction policy. It controls Congress, and forbids action against itself. It still claims the right of man-hunting in the loyal free states of the North, and has its claim recognized by Northern Republican Senators. It not only claims but exercises the right, without opposition, in the District of Columbia, notwithstanding the nominal abolition of slavery by Congress; and in sight of the Executive Mansion and of the Capitol, it drags back its victims into slavery. This worst feature of the Slave Code is still recognized as law, in the Federal District, and by the Federal Courts in every State in the Union. Yet we are told that slavery is dead, or is virtually destroyed, or (as some have it) has received or is receiving its death blow.

Never has there been a time when the slavery question was more significant than at present. Never has there been a time in which the dangers of the anti-slavery cause were more imminent. Never has there been a time when anti-slavery agitation and anti-slavery exertions were more needed. Never has there been a time when the liberties of the enslaved, and of the whole country, were in more fearful peril than at this moment. If the friends of freedom do not understand this, and will not act accordingly, they may prepare for the bitter disappointment that awaits them.

MR. LINCOLN AND THE FUGITIVE SLAVE BILL.

By a reference to our Congressional News, it will be seen that Mr. WILLEY in the Senate, "quoted from Mr. Lincoln's words to show that their opinions were identical, in reference to the repeal of the fugitive slave law." He (Mr. Willey) said that "if he were not willing to carry out the provisions of the Constitution, in reference to fugitive slaves, he would consider himself a perjured man, and worse than any slave-hunter that ever cracked a whip."

Mr. WILLEY is one of the "Republican or Unconditional Union" Senators from West Virginia, according to the classification of the List of Senators in the Tribune Almanac. The quality of his unconditional Unionism will be seen by the foregoing extract.

Yet Mr. WILLEY is a representative man, of one of the wings—and that, too, a large wing—of the Union party recently assembled in the nominating Convention at Baltimore. To the same wing, as Mr. WILLEY truthfully attests, Mr. LINCOLN himself belongs. And of both wings, the conservative and the so called radical, Mr. LINCOLN is the harmoniously nominated embodiment, representative, and head!—With Mr. LINCOLN and Mr. WILLEY, on the fugitive slave question, stand Mr. SHERMAN of Ohio, and Mr. FOSTER of Connecticut, both Union men, elected as Republicans. In the vote, some time ago in the Senate, these Senators succeeded in procuring the exemption, (and thus the virtual re-enactment) of the Fugitive Slave Act of 1793 from the operation of the then pending bill for repealing the Fugitive Slave Act of 1850.

So that the action of the Senate is controlled, in the interest of Slavery, by that wing of the Union party, of which Mr. WILLEY is the exponent, MESSRS. SHERMAN and FOSTER the champions, ABRAHAM LINCOLN their chief, being the chosen head of both wings! "How can two walk together except they be agreed?" How are such men as Sumner, Chandler, Wilson, Julian, Arnold, and other anti-slavery men to continue their co-operation with such a party, thus controlled, unless they submit to be overborne by the controlling influence of their party? Can any

body tell us how? Or how can such men give their support at the ballot box, to Mr. LINCOLN, without compromising their anti-slavery principles? How can Gov. Andrew How can the Editors of the Tribune, the Independent, the Principia, or how can any one who calls himself a radical abolitionist, or even an anti-slavery man?

Can Mr. GARRISON answer the question? Or can any who carp at the Principia for its refusal to support Mr. Lincoln?

PUBLISHER'S CORRESPONDENCE.

I.

WEST MERIDEN, Conn., May 27, 1864.

Dear Sir: I have concluded to send two dollars more toward circulating the Principia. Please send it to —, for the time it will pay for.

I want very much to attend the Cleveland Convention, but the way is not open for me. Oh, that there may be such a gathering as will open the eyes of the wire-pullers, to the fact that the people are not going to be duped into the support of Mr. Lincoln, for President for another term.

It appears to me that God will overturn the counsels of the politicians, and give deliverance to his people and the country, for his name's sake, and for Zion's sake. This is my daily prayer, and it appears to me that deliverance is coming.

Oh how sweet to repose in His arms of love and mercy! Yours most Respectfully,
In the cause of Righteousness,
EDWARD TUNG.

II.

I wish to present to you my sentiments in regard to the next President.

My first choice is a man like John C. Fremont. But if such a man should assume the proprietorship of all the negroes in rebellion and offer them as a bribe, to buy back the loyalty of the slaveholding rebels, or neglect to protect them, when they are kidnapped and sold into slavery, or consent to the introduction of a system of serfdom, or if he shows any desire to banish the colored men from the land of their birth, I could not vote for him though he should be nominated by acclamation and that nomination be universally ratified.

DAVID BORDEN.

WEST MILTON, Rock Co., Wis., May 23, 1864.

III.

FELTON, Rock Co., Wis.

We read the Principia here, and we like it. Nearly every Lincoln man here would be in favor of immediate and unconditional emancipation of all the slaves, but for fear (as he supposes) of exasperating every other man. Like a man and his wife, lying awake all night in silence and stillness for fear of disturbing each other. The same may be said of the nomination of Fremont in preference to Lincoln. Each individual man would prefer the former, but rather than drive every other Unionist into the support of the "Copperhead" candidate is willing to waive his preference for the present.

One is almost compelled to question the ability of such a people for self government. Especially if we consider how few they are of universal liberty. How calamitous would have been to the nation, if emancipation had been proclaimed and sustained at the taking of Fort Sumter (say they). How it would have alienated the feelings of loyal men, all over the country, and made sad the hearts of all good men. Of course, seizing and sending unoffending persons into bondage would make glad their hearts!

A little boy boasting of his ability to spell, was told by his sister older, to spell cat. He immediately responded D-O-G, out, and all arguments his sister could produce to convince him of his incorrect orthography proved abortive. That illustrates the arguments and reasoning of many upon the Constitution of our country. Respectfully yours,
June 1, 1864. S. L. MASON.

IV.

Fort Bates, near Clarksville, Tenn.

I cannot think of doing without the Principia, as I consider it the ablest advocate of the true principles of Government published in the country. It is the most welcome visitor that I receive by mail, except the letters from my wife, which are read first. Allow me to say, that while I do not take my cue from any master party, without bringing them to the test of the higher law, I cordially indorse the religion, morals and politics of the Principia. Its principles are calculated to exalt the Nation and secure the favor of God. Oh, that our Government were administered upon the principles taught in your paper, instead of policy and "military necessity." Be not weary in well doing, for where the principles of your paper are understood, they are received by honest men.

At the first call of our country for men to put down this rebellion, the only man I had, old enough to enter the service, was the army, and nearly two years ago I decided that it was my duty to enter the army, though past the age of forty-five. In order to help to bruise the serpent's head. On account of our absence, and other causes, many have been scarce at home. I inclose five dollars and ask you to send me the amount of the balance due, and I will at the earliest day forward it to you.

H. M. LEECH.

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Mr. Powell said as there had been no meeting of the Committee, it could not be reported at this time.

Mr. Johnson said it was not necessary that there should be a formal meeting of the Committee.

The Chair decided that the bill could be reported at this time, but could not be considered, if objections were made.

Mr. Powell and others objected.

The Freedmen's Bureau.—The bill to establish a Bureau on Freedmen's Affairs came up in order, the pendence was

ed the bill from what he considered the misrepresentations of the Senator from Iowa. He could well understand how the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. Willax) could oppose the

country. Its discussion occupied the remainder of the session, and the Senate adjourned without coming to a vote on it.

an obstinate contest, they drove him from successive lines of breastworks, through an almost impassable forest, back on Trevillian Station. In the meantime, Gen. Curtis was

number of John Morgan's staff, came into Lexington, Ky., on Thursday with Gen. Hobson under a flag of truce, with the design of arranging with Gen. Burbridge for an exchange.

Slavery.--The House resumed the consideration of the Constitutional amendment to abolish Slavery.

preliminary preparations—commenced on Sunday the 12th. Gen. Smith's corps marched to White House and embarked on transport

ade, wounded; and Col. Castor, commanding
regiment, wounded. My loss in killed and
wounded will be about five hundred and se-
enty-five. Of this number four hundred a-

Their gallantry has created a wonderful revolution of feeling in the army, among both officers and men, all of whom unite in acknowledg-

is stated that Gen. Smith has heretofore been skeptical as to the reliability of colored soldiers, but he is now thoroughly convinced of his error. Gen. Birney is temporarily placed in command of Hancock's corps the better.

ment. The resolution authorizing the Postmaster-General to extend for one year the present contract with the Overland Mail Co.

enemy still held one formidable line of trenchments, which we have, thus far, failed to carry. The enemy, in endeavoring to re-

fighting Wednesday on our left. Blair's company was storming the enemy's works. Our whole army was in line, and there was firing along the entire front.

following dispatch, dated June 15 at Mill
Head, S. C.:

"I have the honor to report that I have
just received from Major General Samuel J.

commanding the rebel forces in this department, a letter stating that five general officers of the United States, as prisoners of war, had been placed in Charleston, to be retained there under our fire. Against this weak and cruel act I have protested. In the meantime, the fire on the city is continued. I respectfully ask that an equal number of rebel officers of equal rank may be sent to me, in order that I may place them under the rebel fire as long as our officers are exposed in Charleston.

This department has issued a retaliatory order, transferring to General Foster an equal number of rebel general officers to be treated in the manner proposed, as long as our officers are exposed in Charleston.

E. M. STANTON, Secretary of War.

General Gillmore has been relieved from his command in General Butler's department by order of General Grant, at Gillmore's own request, and is now in Washington. The difficulty arose out of certain charges made by General Butler that Gillmore disobeyed orders in not supporting Kautz in his raid on Petersburg. A court of inquiry will no doubt settle the question of responsibility.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Hon. Aaron H. Cragin has been chosen U. S. Senator from New Hampshire, to succeed John P. Hale, whose term expires on the 4th of March next. Mr. Cragin has represented his district in the House, and has also been a member of the State Legislature.

Dedication of the Battle Monument Site at West Point.—The site for a monument in memory of the officers of the regular army who have fallen in this war was dedicated at West Point, on the 15th. The site chosen is at the extreme end of "Trophy Point." General Robert Anderson officiated as grand marshal of the dedicatory ceremony, and among the large assemblage of spectators were Governor Seymour and General Kilpatrick, Meagher, Glazier and Sprague. The ceremony opened with a prayer, offered up by the Rev. Dr. French. General McClellan was then introduced and delivered an oration commemorative of the virtues, bravery, intelligence and worth of our gallant dead, concluding with a tribute to their memory. He was followed by another prayer by the Rev. Mr. Soule.

Valandigham at home.—Valandigham has ventured across the line from Canada into Ohio. He appeared suddenly before the Democratic District Convention at Hamilton, last week, and was welcomed with enthusiasm by his admirers. Here he gave a history of his grievances and was immediately elected delegate to the Chicago Convention. He then proceeded to his home in Dayton, where he announces his intention to remain. He says he does not believe Abraham Lincoln will molest him, and that if he should be disturbed, his friends will defend him.

Lincoln Ratification Meeting.—A meeting was held at Cooper Institute on the evening of the 15th, to ratify the nominations of Messrs. Lincoln and Johnson by the Baltimore Convention. The meeting was neither crowded nor enthusiastic. It was conducted principally by office-holders. Speeches were made by H. J. Raymond, Esq., Gov. Wright of Indiana, Horace Maynard of Tennessee, Hon. S. Matthews of Maryland and C. S. Spencer of New York.

Terrible Explosion at the Washington Arsenal.—A terrible explosion occurred at the Washington Arsenal a few minutes before 12 o'clock, on the 17th. It seems that some red stars for fireworks had been made and set on black paws to dry. They could not stand a temperature of more than two hundred degrees, and under the hot sun soon reached that. One of the stars ignited, which set the remainder off, exploding the laboratory. The occupants of the building were all females. Upon the explosion a terrible scene was witnessed. In the yard there were about twelve hundred men and three hundred women at work, a number of whom were burned and bruised in the endeavor to get away. The alarm was immediately given, and after the fire was extinguished a search for the bodies was commenced. Eighteen bodies have been taken out of the ruins, burned to a crisp. It was impossible to recognize them.

Eight females were taken out in a sad condition and placed in the hospital.

The scene at the yard was of the most heart-rending description.

The parents of many of those at work in the building and the yard rushed to the scene of the disaster to make inquiries after the safety of their children, but the names of all who have perished have not been ascertained.

Major Stebbins, Military Storekeeper, was in the building at the time with several other gentlemen, and states that after the powder on the benches caught, the fire spread down rapidly, blinding the girls and setting fire to their clothes. Many of them ran to the windows wrapped in flames and in this way communicated the fire to the dresses of others.

The eighteen dead bodies taken out were so terribly charred as to be almost beyond identification. Three more are mortally injured, and there are fifteen or twenty severe contusions. Special care was taken to prevent the fire from reaching the large magazine, in which several tons of powder are constantly kept, for had the flames reached the building, the loss of life would have been fearful, as several hundred persons were in the immediate vicinity. While the firemen were engaged in pouring their streams upon the building in which the explosion occurred, another explosion took place in the ruins, but which only resulted in throwing up into the air some of the burning timbers.

Quite a number were injured in jumping from the windows; but the majority of those who escaped in this way immediately ran off in all directions, which renders it difficult to tell who perished and who escaped. One young woman had an arm broken in jumping from the window. Three boys are missing, and it is feared they perished in the building.

Early-Closing Movement.—Several thousand clerks of dry goods and other dealers in this city assembled at Union Square on the 16th, for the purpose of effecting a change

in their hours of labor. The clerks in the retail trade desire that the stores of their employers may be closed at seven o'clock in the evening; and they appeal to the public to do no trading after that hour.

The clerks marched in procession; they had banners, music, and calcium lights; and their meeting was entirely satisfactory to them in respect to numbers and enthusiasm.

Ex-Mayor Opdyke presided and made a short and pertinent speech, when letters from Governor Seymour; A. T. Stewart, General Walbridge and Simon Stern were read, and resolutions adopted, declaring the objects of the clerks, and that they "knew no such word as fail." Horace Greeley, H. W. Beecher, Chauncey Shaffer, C. S. Spencer, George F. Train, Mr. McChesney, Mr. McLellan and others delivered addresses, and the meeting adjourned.

Farewell to the Russians.—The Boston Post of the 16th says:

"Admiral Leszofsky, with the fleet under his command, comprising the Oslaba, the Vili-az and the Persvez, takes his departure from our waters this morning to sail directly for Cronstadt. Last evening the city government tendered a farewell dinner to the officers of the fleet at the Parker House. Mayor Lincoln presided. The entertainment was one of great elegance and was attended, besides the Russian guests, by several well-known citizens. Speeches were made by the Mayor, Admiral Leszofsky, Captains Kopytoff, Bontakoff and Kraemer, Adj. General Schouler, Hon. Josiah Quincy, Jr., Dr. O. W. Holmes, Hon. Peleg W. Chandler, E. P. Whipple and others. The occasion was one of great enjoyment, though of an informal character. Among the guests was the oldest son of President Lincoln. The sentiments expressed by the several speakers showed the most friendly feeling between our country and Russia. We speed the parting as we greet the coming guest. During their brief sojourn in the modern Athens, our Russian brethren have been handsomely treated, and have behaved handsomely in return. They have visited our manufacturing and seen our factory girls; they have learned what kind of men we put in office, and have seen that in this country a man may be great without holding office; the nurseries of our youth have been open to them, and the hospitals where we confine the nursing of the old or invalid; with this also they have seen how a people carry on war and what improvements and additions are made to the art of destruction when free people are at work for their country."

Bishop Colenso Deposed.—On the 31st ultimo Messrs. Brooks and Dubois, proctors in London for the Metropolitan Bishop of Capetown, served a copy of the following sentence of deposition on Bishop Colenso:

"Whereas, in and by the sentence pronounced by us on the 16th December, 1863, against the Bishop of Natal, we did adjudge to suspend the operation of the said sentence until the 16th April, 1864, for the purpose of affording the said Bishop of Natal an opportunity of retracting and recalling the extracts therein mentioned and referred to; and whereas, the said sentence so delivered by us on the said 16th December, 1863, was personally served on the said Bishop of Natal at No. 23 Sussex Place, Kensington, in the county of Middlesex, on the 26th January, 1864, as appears from the affidavit of service thereof duly filed of record; and whereas, it has been proved to our satisfaction that the Bishop of Natal did not, on or before the 4th day of March last past file of record with Douglas Dubois, of No. 7 Goddard street, Doctors Common, London, proctor, solicitor and notary public, our commissary in England, a full, unconditional, and absolute retraction, in writing, of the extracts so mentioned and referred to in said sentence, nor did on or before the 16th day of April instant, file with the registrar of this diocese, at his office in Capetown, such full, unconditional and absolute retraction and recall of the said extracts. And whereas the said sentence has now, in terms of the provisions thereof, and by reason of the premises, become of full force and effect, now, therefore, we do hereby adjudge and decree the sentence so pronounced on the said 16th of December, 1863, to be of full force, virtue and effect from and after this date; and we do, accordingly, decree and sentence the said Bishop of Natal to be deposed from the said office as such bishop, and prohibited from the exercise of any divine office within any part of the metropolitan province of Capetown.

(Signed) "R. CAPETOWN (L.S.)"

Adj.-Gen. Thomas on Negro Soldiers.

WAR DEPARTMENT, ADJ.-GENERAL'S OFFICE, WASHINGTON, May 30, 1864.

Hon. H. Wilson—Dear Sir: On several occasions, when on the Mississippi River, I contemplated writing to you respecting the colored troops and to suggest that, as they have been fully tested as soldiers, their pay should be raised to that of white troops, and I desire now to give my testimony in their behalf. You are aware that I have been engaged in the organization of freedmen, for over a year, and have necessarily been thrown in constant contact with them.

The negro in a state of slavery is brought up by the master, from early childhood, to strict obedience, and to obey implicitly the dictates of the white man, and they are thus led to believe that they are an inferior race. Now, when organized into troops they carry this habit of obedience with them, and their officers being entirely white men, the negroes promptly obey their orders.

A regiment is thus rapidly brought into a state of discipline. They are a religious people—another high quality for making good soldiers. They are a musical people, and thus learn to march and accurately perform their manœuvres. They take pride in being elevated as soldiers, and keep themselves as well as their camp grounds neat and clean. This I know from personal inspection, and from the reports of my special inspectors, two of my staff officers being constantly on inspecting duty.

They have proved a most important addition to our forces, enabling the Generals in active operations to take a large force of white troops into the field, and now, brigades of blacks are placed with the whites. The forts erected at the important points on the river are nearly all garrisoned by blacks—artillery regiments raised for the purpose—say at Paducah and Columbus, Kentucky, Memphis, Tennessee, Vicksburg and Natchez, Mississippi, and most of the works around New Orleans.

Experience proves that they manage heavy guns very well. Their fighting qualities have also been fully tested a number of times, and

I am yet to hear of the first case where they did not fully stand up to their work. I passed over the ground where the late Louisiana made the gallant charge at Port Hudson, by far the stronger part of the Rebel works. The wonder is that so many have made their escape. At Milliken's Bend, where I had three incomplete regiments—one without arms until the day previous to the attack—greatly superior numbers of Rebels charged furiously up to the breastworks. The negroes met the enemy on the ramparts, and both sides freely used the bayonet—a most rare occurrence in warfare, as one or the other party gives way before coming in contact with the steel. The Rebels were defeated with heavy loss. The bridge at Moscow, on the line of the railroad from Memphis to Corinth, was defended by a small regiment of blacks. A cavalry attack of three times their number was made, the blacks defeating them in three charges made by the Rebels.

They fought them hours, till our cavalry came up, when the defeat was made complete, many of the dead being left on the field. A cavalry force of 350 attacked 200 rebel cavalry near the Big Black with signal success, a number of prisoners being taken and marched to Vicksburg. Forrest attacked Paducah with 7,500 men. The garrison was between five and six hundred, nearly four hundred being colored troops recently raised. What troops could have done better? So, too they fought well at Fort Pillow till overpowered by greatly superior numbers.

The above enumerated cases seem to me sufficient to demonstrate the value of the colored troops. I make no mention of the cases on the Atlantic coast, with which you are perfectly familiar.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant.

L. THOMAS,

Adjutant-General.

An English view of the American Woman's "Covenant."—The London Daily News devotes a sensible leading article to the anti-luxury movement of the women of the United States, concluding thus:

"As far as we can judge there will be little difference of opinion on this side of the water on any part of the case. The recent profuse expenditure in dress and luxury has not been a spectacle agreeable to the moral taste of the real friends of the republic, however clearly they may see it to be a natural consequence of an inflated currency and an abnormal war expenditure. It would, therefore, please the friends of the northern cause to see a style of manners prevailing more accordant with the solemn and tragic character of the time. So far their sympathy will be with the motive of the league. Nor would this feeling be impaired by any fear of the economical consequences in Europe. Nothing that can be done by any voluntary association can stop the drain of gold from any country when its disposition to other circulating media has reached a certain point. The gold will run out till the balance of the currency is restored. And it will bring in a proportionate amount of European commodities in return, whether those imports are of one character or another. If not silks, laces, and cigars, it will be something else that is wanted—arms and ammunition, hardware, woollens, or colonial products. The merchants and the much-dreaded 'speculator' will take care that commodities shall find their way where they are wanted, past all barriers of conventional exclusion. We had all rather see the freedmen cared for, and the wounded, and bereaved tended and sustained, than fine ladies glittering with diamonds while erasing the penalties of the war; but the total amount of exchange will scarcely be affected by such mutations of taste and habit. And we will venture to assure all good citizens in the republic that they have nothing to fear from our manufacturers, operatives and artisans, whatever course expenditure may take in the Northern States. After the proof of the temper of the Lancashire people which the cotton famine has afforded, it is rather strange that any northern citizen should imagine that friends could be turned into enemies by any effect this league could produce on the silk and lace manufactures. Intervention will not take place a day sooner for anything the league may do or design; and if we do not believe that its members will modify the operation of economic laws, we shall have hearty sympathy for every act of self-denial and devotedness by which the woes of the war will be assuaged, and its consequences lightened to posterity."

The Gold Bill.—The President has approved and signed the act to prohibit certain sales of gold and foreign exchange, commonly called the "Gold Bill," and also the bill providing that all goods, wares, and merchandise in the public stores and warehouses, on which the duties are unpaid, and which shall have been in bond for more than one year and less than three years, may be entered for consumption and the bonds cancelled at any time before the first day of September next, on payment of the duties and charges according to the laws in force at the time the goods shall be withdrawn.

Sad Accident.—The New-York express train for Boston, via Springfield, Monday afternoon, when about one mile north of Berlin Station, met with an accident caused by the expansion of the track rails. The two rear cars of the train were thrown from the track down an embankment and badly broken up. Some 35 persons are reported to be injured, mostly by bruises.

FOREIGN.

Europe.—By the arrival of the Royal Mail steamship Scotia, we have dates from Liverpool to the 4th inst. Mr. Dayton, the United States Minister at Paris, having made representations to the French Government, which were deemed satisfactory, that the war-vessels being built at Bordeaux and Nantes were intended for the Confederates, it was ordered that they should not be permitted to leave the ports where they are building. Two delegates are said to have been appointed by the French Government to proceed to America, ascertain the real state and prospects of the belligerents, and report the same to the Emperor. It is also reported that overtures have been made by France to the British Government, with a view to stopping the frightful and needless carnage between the Federals and Confederates. In the House of Commons it was stated that the telegraph, which is intended to bring the Old and New World in communication by way of Behring's, is actually in course of execution.

At the last meeting of the London Conference, on the 23d, all the neutral powers declared themselves in favor of separating Holstein, Lauenburg and South Schleswig from the dominions of the King of Denmark, and erecting them into an independent German State. The representatives of the German Powers and those of the neutral Powers were, however, disagreed as to the frontier line of the two nationalities. The Danish representatives declared against a prolongation of the armistice, but consented to refer the matter to their Government. The conference was to meet again on the 6th. Notice has been given that the blockade of the ports which were raised on the 12th of May will, unless negotiations are carried on at the Conference leading, at least to some preliminary arrangements, be resumed on the 12th of June.

The Rebel sympathizers among the London dailies assert that Grant's campaign has been a total failure. The London Times thinks that he will not be able to recross the Potomac with more than a remnant of his army.

The Spanish Government has disapproved the conduct of Admiral Pinzon in seizing the Chinese Islands. The European press generally condemned this act as one of manifest robbery.

Mexico.—The Emperor Maximilian arrived at Vera Cruz on May 28, having touched at Madeira and Martinique. At the latter place he liberated four Mexicans of the National party. On his arrival in Vera Cruz, Almonte was summoned by telegraph from Cordova, and he arrived at Vera Cruz in the evening. The Municipal Council of Vera Cruz presented to the

Emperor the keys of the city. After a brief sojourn he took the train for Loma Alta, the terminus of the road, and from there proceeded to Soledad, Cordova and Orizaba. At Vera Cruz he also issued a proclamation, in which he promised to pursue a liberal policy. Gen. Santa Anna has been appointed Field Marshal of the Empire, and a sloop-of-war is to be sent from Vera Cruz to Havana to convey him with all possible honor to the Mexican shores. Almonte, by a decree of April 10, had been appointed Vicegerent of Maximilian until the arrival of the Emperor in Mexico, and consequently the regency had ceased their functions on May 20. It was expected that Maximilian would reach the City of Mexico on the 10th inst.

The French claim to have gained three victories over the Mexicans—one at Huachilán, where Gen. Donai is said to have captured 100 men; one at Valparaiso, near Zacatecas, where, according to French reports, the Mexicans lost 120 killed and 300 captured, and one at Macabua, when Mejia totally routed Dublahé, capturing over 1,000 men. The last item we mentioned last week.

Central and South America.—By the arrival of the Northern Light from Aspinwall, we have news from Central and South America. One third of the city of Aspinwall was destroyed by fire on May 30. The excitement in Peru, Chili, and other South American Republics, against Spain, continues. The navies of Peru and Chili are being augmented, and Peru was soon to launch a monitor. The enrollment of volunteers is still progressing in the United States of Colombia in an attempt had been made to assassinate Gen. Mosquera, but it was unsuccessful.

West Indies.—Captain Bland of the Hamburg bark Hermann and Moby at the port, from St. Domingo City, 31st inst. reports:—"The revolution was still progressing with savage late. The great Massacre of Manzanilla bay, after some resistance, cost the loss of about one hundred men, and many wounded. The Spaniards did not spare the prisoners, nor is it known that any of the Dominicans were killed. The whole island, the taking of Monte Cristi, and the strategic point of view, to about the same one hundred thousand men taking possession of Governor's Island, in New York harbor, to consider the whole United States as a market for the market is glutted with American prisoners and lumber. At the same time mining and vegetables of the country are enormously high, as nothing is brought in beyond a mile outside the walls of the city. The rainy season had set in. Fava beans had already claimed their victims, considerable extent, which, together with smallpox, which has been raging for some time past, and become a perfect epidemic, make St. Domingo City rather a gloomy place for some months to come."

LATER FROM EUROPE.

By the arrival of the North American, we have five days later news from Europe.

The ship Rockingham from Calcutta to Queenstown was burned by the pirate Albatross, April 23. The Alabama was spoken on the following day by a vessel which has since arrived in London.

The London Conference on the Danubian question had been extended to the 20th of June. No progress had been made towards a settlement of the question, and it was feared that hostilities would be resumed between the Danes and Germans when the armistice expired. Danes complain that the proposed frontier of their country would leave them at the mercy of Germany. The Emperor of Russia had transferred to the House of Oldenburg all claims of his family to the Russian succession.

The Emperor of Russia has recalled the Ambassador from Rome. This is regarded as a mark of the Emperor's displeasure with the recent Allocution of the Pope relative to the land.

Earl Russell in the English Parliament, complained of the non-attention by the Washington Government to the representations sent by Lord Lyons on the subject of Federalism in Ireland.

CONVERS.

Outrage upon a Soldier's Widow.—On Friday morning last, a respectable, well-dressed, and in deep mourning, and, as an observer might see, in considerable distress and weak, was dragged by two men, a policeman and the conductor of a car, out of the Eighth Avenue cars into the street, and there left. She was clean, orderly, and very decent. But she was black—black as her offence.

A correspondent gave notice of the outrage in our columns the same day. We took the pains to inquire a little further about the poor woman who was so brutally treated. Her name is Ellen Anderson. She was the wife, but is now the widow, of the late William Anderson, of Company Twenty-sixth United States colored troops. This regiment of Union soldiers was raised in this city, under the auspices of the League Club. Sergeant Anderson was here, showed himself to be a brave, honest, and trusty soldier, and had been promoted for good conduct. A few days ago Mrs. Anderson received a letter from England, her husband's captain, informing that her husband had been drowned at sea while in the discharge of his duty. In this letter the captain took occasion to mention in high terms of her husband's soldierly qualities.

This poor widow of a loyal soldier, and decently behaving herself as quietly and as respectably as any gentlewoman was, was out of a public conveyance in this city, on every day when Major-General South was thanked and praised the colored soldiers under his command for their gallantry in trying position, and told them that in opinion they had proved themselves to be any place on the field. What will the soldiers think of us, when they read of the outrage in the papers? Or is it not what they think? Then what will the white men think and say, when they hear the widow of a soldier of the Union, who merit made him a sergeant, and who died in the discharge of his duty, is not permitted to sit in a street car in New York?—*Post.*

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